



**State of Indiana**  
**Governor's Residence Commission**  
4750 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

**Bill Oesterle**  
*Chairman*

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## **A Tour of the Residence**

### **Public Areas**

#### **Formal Entrance**

The front entryway of the house has been restored, making it historically accurate. The new landscaping and drive complete the restoration.

#### **Reception Hall**

A rare William and Mary marquetry chest c. 1690 sets the tone in this space, with an emphasis on texture, color and flow. Walls are hand-painted stripes, emphasizing the art created by Indiana artists ranging from contemporary to traditional.

#### **Powder Room**

The state flower has been highlighted in the powder room with the selection of peony-patterned wallpaper. The custom cabinet was designed and built by an Evansville, Indiana company for this space, featuring antique brass fixtures.

#### **State Dining Room**

The hand-painted mural is a 19th century style scene of the Wabash River. Artists from Brownsburg and Sheridan created this mural for the Residence. The dining table, chairs and chandelier have been retained from previous administrations, bringing continuity to the Residence. The state china collection and crystal are shown on the dining room table and are used at formal state functions. Silver from the U.S.S. Indiana can be seen here, as well as throughout the house.

#### **Formal Living Room**

The formal living room is a warm and inviting space that can be filled with the sounds of music from the grand piano built and donated by the Charles R. Walter Piano Company of Elkhart, Indiana, and Piano Solutions. The Sheraton mahogany breakfront c. 1770 was moved from the dining room, giving this space a sense of formality. The clock is a Queen Anne longcase clock made by William Harris of London in 1702. Artwork in the room is part of the permanent art collection for the Residence and features Brown County artist T.C. Steele.

#### **Library**

The library is filled by the richness of the refinished paneling and wood flooring. Its shelves contain books composed by more than 400 Indiana authors. First edition books by Hoosier writers such as James Whitcomb Riley, Kurt Vonnegut and Booth Tarkington are part of this collection. This room serves as the private office for the governor. Throughout this room you can also find pieces given to the Governor as gifts on his two recent trade missions to Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. A beautiful painting of the Indiana Statehouse by Hoosier artist C.W. Mundy is a prominent feature in the room. The Mundy painting depicts the sunlight shining directly on the governor's office in the Statehouse.

## **Main Kitchen**

The newly renovated kitchen and butler's pantry feature cabinets designed by a Carmel, Indiana firm. Decorative glass highlights state symbols. The kitchen space is designed for serving large and small gatherings. All of the appliances in the kitchen were donated by General Electric.

## **Hoosier Hospitality Room**

In 2002, then-First Lady Judy O'Bannon spearheaded a project to make the Governor's Residence accessible to all Hoosiers by bringing it into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This was accomplished by building a 2,300-square-foot addition on the south end of the Residence and adding an elevator that services three floors. The Hoosier Hospitality Room is sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

## **Private Living Quarters**

### **First Lady's Office**

With a bold color scheme and comfortable seating, the first lady can catch up on her daily letters, hold a small business meeting, or read a book. The desk, table, chairs and television cabinet are existing pieces of the Residence.

### **Master Suite**

The master suite features the existing four-poster bed, dresser, armoire, bedside chests and a small intimate seating area. The bathroom reflects the original style of the house. Closets were updated for today's lifestyle.

### **Family Living Room**

Soft neutral colors with touches of blue and brown help create a comfortable space for the family to gather. The wide screen television was a gift to the governor on his recent visit to South Korea by LG Electronics.

### **Family Kitchen**

This space has been newly created by joining three smaller rooms for a private family kitchen and dining area. The cabinets were crafted by a firm in Gosport, Indiana. The kitchen allows the first family to prepare meals and snacks without having to use the main kitchen downstairs.

### **Guest Bedroom**

Furniture throughout this room has been retained from previous administrations. The four-poster bed is dressed with warm neutral colors and features a donated custom mattress.

### **Dorm/Guest Suite**

This forgotten space has been revived with the use of a cream and blue toile enveloping the room. The colors help create a comfortable area for a visiting child or family member.

### **Morning Room**

The morning room serves as a perfect place to relax and enjoy the view of the garden. Custom-built shelves were donated to display the first family's collection of books and memorabilia.

## **Other Areas**

### **Landscaping**

The back patio area contains a ramp to assist in handicapped accessibility. Beyond the terrace is the Hoosier Heritage Garden featuring two Indiana icons: our state flower, the peony, and state tree, the tulip. Planted in 1980 under then-First Lady Elizabeth Bowen, the Residence's formal garden celebrates Indiana's historic reputation as the birthplace of many famous authors. The wooden sculptures, a squirrel at the back of the property and an eagle along the sidewalk, were created by chainsaw sculptors from aged trees grown on the grounds. An iron birdcage sculpture, located on the south side of the property, is a landmark that was commissioned by former First Lady Josie Orr.

### **Carriage House**

The Carriage House, consisting of a living room, eat-in kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms and two baths, is used for short-term guests. The simple elegance of the house is reflected in the original hardwood floors and wall coverings by an Indianapolis artist in both the dining room and master suite.